

By Mr. HELMS, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment and with a preamble:

S. Res. 275. A resolution to express the sense of the Senate concerning Afghanistan.

By Mr. HELMS, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Res. 276. A resolution congratulating the people of Mongolia on embracing democracy in Mongolia through their participation in the parliamentary elections held on June 30, 1996.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. MOYNIHAN):

S. 1984. A bill to amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to require a 10 percent reduction in certain assistance to a State under such title unless public safety officers who retire as a result of injuries sustained in the line of duty continue to receive health insurance benefits; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. HUTCHISON):

S. 1985. A bill to increase penalties for sex offenses against children; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HATFIELD:

S. 1986. A bill to provide for the completion of the Umatilla Basin Project, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. FAIRCLOTH:

S. 1987. A bill to amend titles II and XVIII of the Social Security Act to prohibit the use of social security and medicare trust funds for certain expenditures relating to union representatives at the Social Security Administration and the Department of Health and Human Services; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MACK (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. LOTT, Mr. HATCH, and Mr. BENNETT):

S. 1988. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for individuals who are residents of the District of Columbia a maximum rate of tax of 15 percent on income from sources within the District of Columbia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. BRADLEY (for himself, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. FRIST, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. DEWINE, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. BIDEN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. GLENN, Mr. REID, Mr. SIMON, Mr. KOHL, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. DODD, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. COATS, Mr. D'AMATO, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. KASSABAUM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. INOUE, Mr. BURNS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. ROTH, Mr. DORGAN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mr. BUMPERS, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. KERRY, Mr. COHEN,

Mr. JOHNSTON, Mr. GORTON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. ROBB, Mr. KEMPTHORNE, Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, Mr. MACK, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. CAMPBELL, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. HEFLIN, Mrs. FRAHM, Mr. EXON, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. FORD, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. BYRD, Mr. GREGG, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. HATFIELD, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. KERREY, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. NUNN, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. HELMS, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. BRYAN, and Mr. PELL):

S. Res. 282. A resolution to designate October 10, 1996, as the "Day of National Concern About Young People and Gun Violence"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. MOYNIHAN):

S. 1984. A bill to amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to require a 10 percent reduction in certain assistance to a State under such title unless public safety officers who retire as a result of injuries sustained in the line of duty continue to receive health insurance benefits; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

##### THE ALU-O'HARA PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS HEALTH BENEFITS ACT

• Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, almost 1 year ago today, Officer Joseph Alu and Detective James O'Hara responded to an emergency hostage situation.

When the officers had arrived at the scene—they found that the assailant had cordoned himself off in a bedroom of a house and had taken two teenaged girls for hostages.

The officers broke down the bedroom door, only to discover that the assailant had doused himself, the hostages, and the entire house in gasoline.

At that moment, the assailant dropped a lighter on the floor, setting the room ablaze, killing himself and the two hostages. Officers Alu and O'Hara were critically wounded—receiving severe burns over most of their bodies.

Both officers remained in the hospital for the better part of a year fighting for their lives.

Officer O'Hara was so badly burned that while he struggled for his life in the intensive care unit for over 6 months, his wife was told to expect and prepare for his imminent death.

Miraculously, Officer Alu and Officer O'Hara survived. But, while still in the hospital, the city of Plantation Police Department notified the officers that since they would not be physically able to return to work—they and their families would lose their health insurance benefits.

Imagine fighting for your life in a hospital, in excruciating pain, knowing that your family is going to be left unprotected.

When these heroes returned home—that is exactly what they found: no job, disability payments of approximately

\$1,200 a month, prohibitively expensive COBRA insurance which would run out in 18 months, and no private health insurance for them and their families.

For over 5 months, Officer Alu's wife, Sheila, stayed home to care for her husband during his rehabilitation—herself unable to work to bring in badly needed extra income.

Further complicating their situation was their 5-year-old daughter Christina, who was battling chronic asthma without health insurance.

Detective O'Hara's family was in a similar situation. In fact, his wife still must care for his everyday needs almost 1 year later.

But instead of giving up hope, officers Alu and O'Hara fought hard. They brought their case to the Florida Legislature—and won.

The legislature, with a Republican Senate and a Democratic House, unanimously passed this legislation at the State level—requiring that localities continue whatever health insurance benefits the officer had prior to the injury.

Mr. President, although they have won personal victories, officers Alu and O'Hara have continued their fight—taking their case to Congress—asking us to make sure that other officers not go through the same pain, uncertainty, and feelings of shame as they did when they were unable to provide for their families.

Across the Nation, unlike veterans who have risked their lives to protect our national security, those who protect our homes and streets have their insurance canceled by municipalities or States when they can no longer do the job.

Mr. President, my legislation, endorsed by all major police and firefighter organizations, would create a safety net for injured officers by requiring municipalities that receive Federal crime dollars to continue to maintain the same level of benefits that an officer had prior to being injured in the line of duty.

If a locality chooses not to offer health insurance to these public safety officers, it would only be able to receive 90 percent of its full complement of community-oriented policing services funding.

Mr. President, the scope of this bill is extremely narrow. It would apply only to a handful of public safety officers, estimated at approximately 100 nationwide per year.

And it is not costly. CBO has already stated that this bill is not an unfunded mandate.

But its message is unmistakably clear.

We need laws which protect our valiant men and women on the front lines. When they go down in the line of duty protecting us, we have a corresponding duty to care for them.

Mr. President, this bill would provide only the most basic package of benefits. It does not grant any enhanced or increased benefits over what the officer had at the time of the injury.